6525.1.1-05/05/04.0

FIG. 1

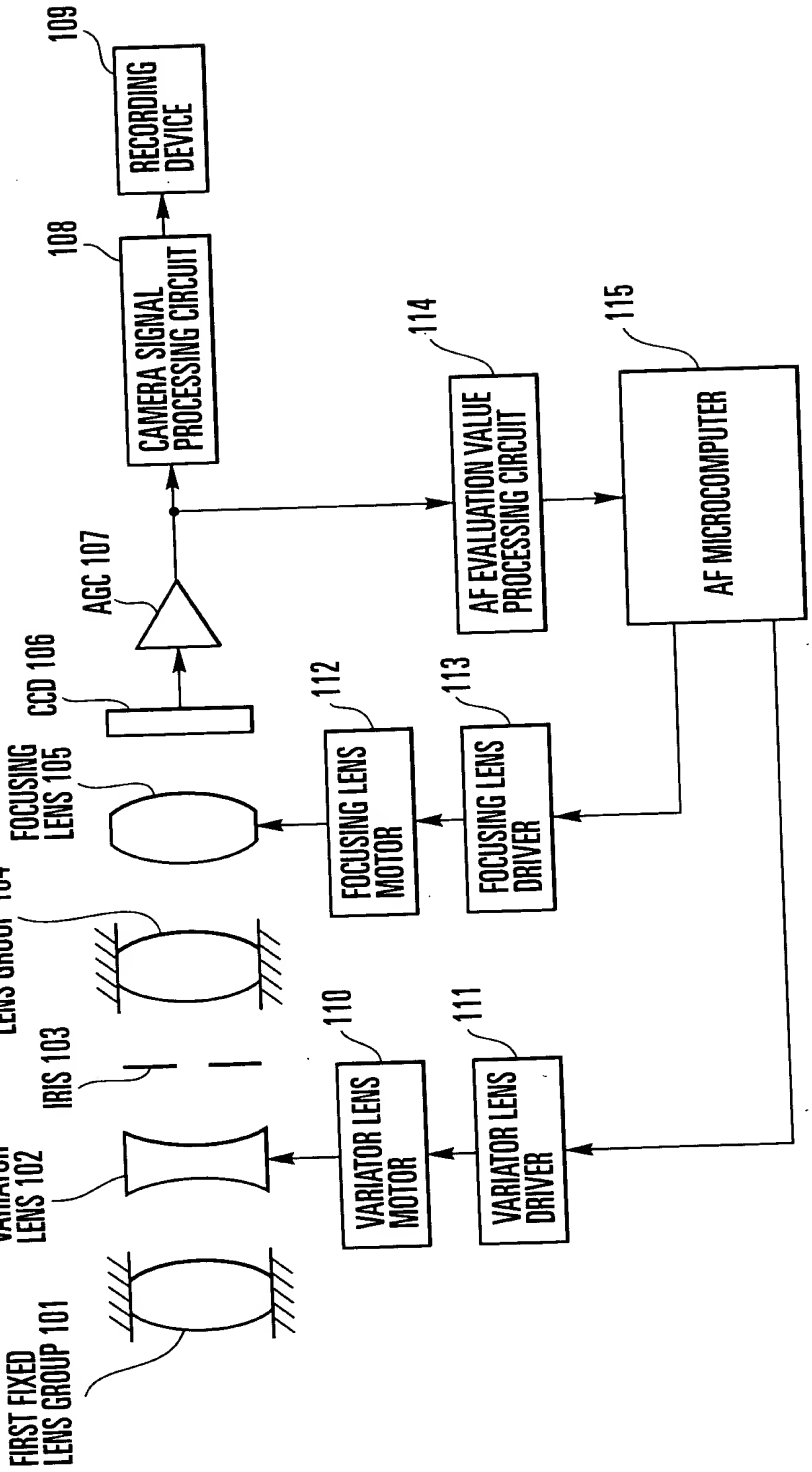

FIG. 2

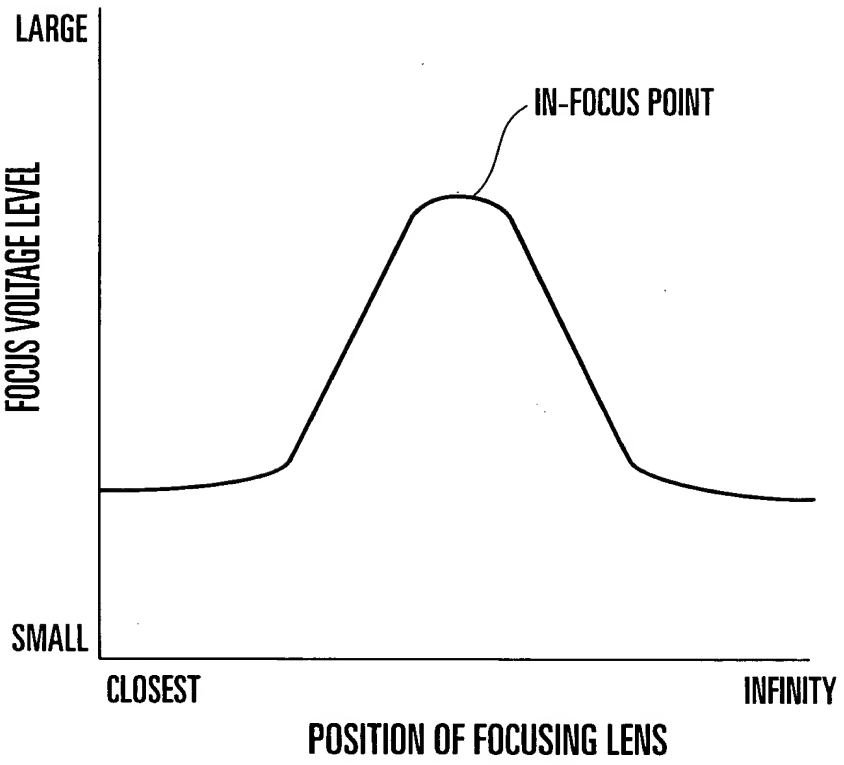
LARGE
IN-FOCUS POINT
FOCUS VOLTAGE LEVEL
SMALL
CLOSEST
INFINITY
POSITION OF FOCUSING LENS

FIG. 3

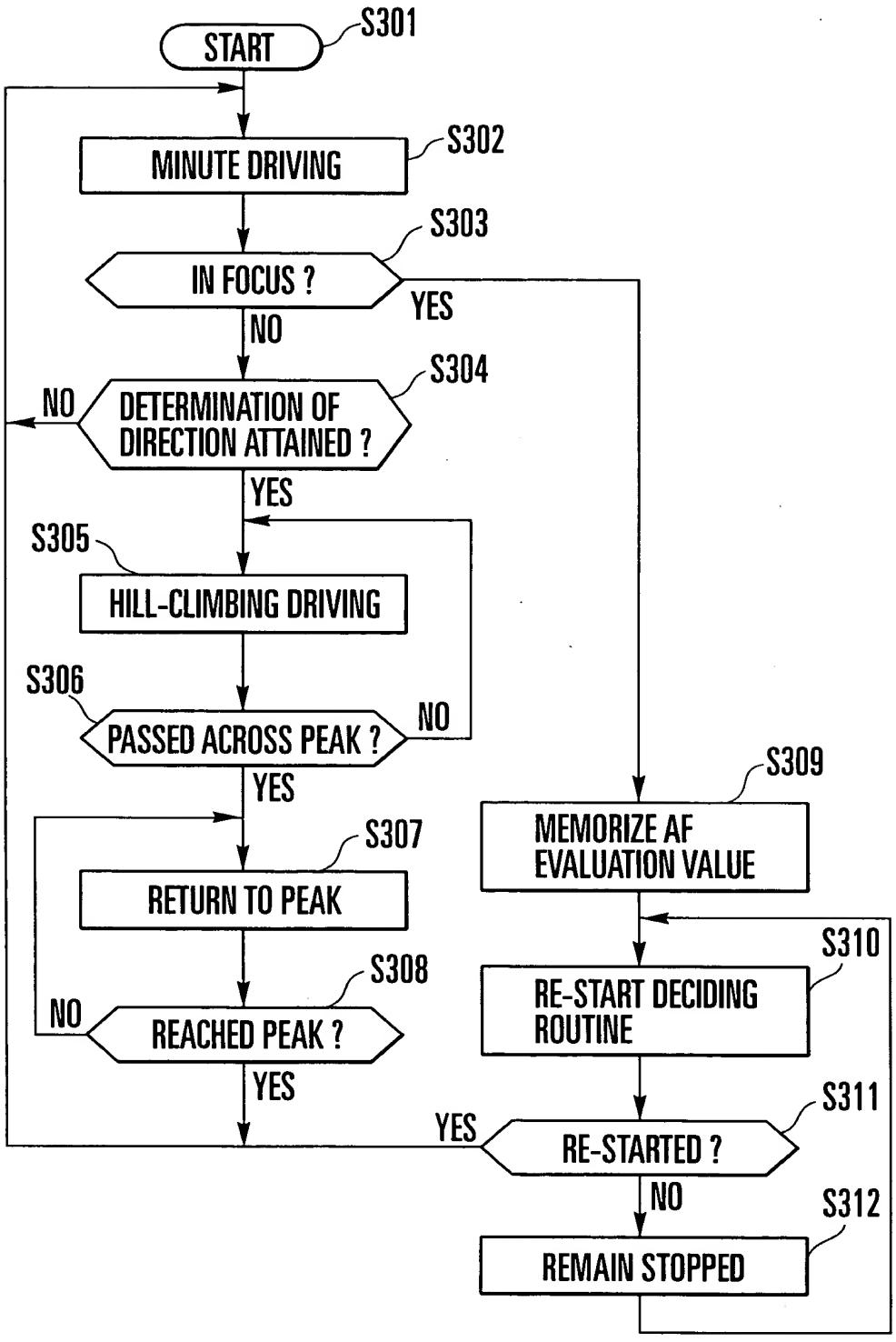
START
S301
MINUTE DRIVING
S302
IN FOCUS ?
S303
YES
NO
DETERMINATION OF DIRECTION ATTAINED ?
S304
NO
YES
HILL-CLIMBING DRIVING
S305
PASSED ACROSS PEAK ?
S306
NO
YES
RETURN TO PEAK
S307
REACHED PEAK ?
S308
NO
YES
MEMORIZE AF EVALUATION VALUE
S309
RE-START DECIDING ROUTINE
S310
RE-STARTED ?
S311
YES
NO
REMAIN STOPPED
S312

FIG. 4

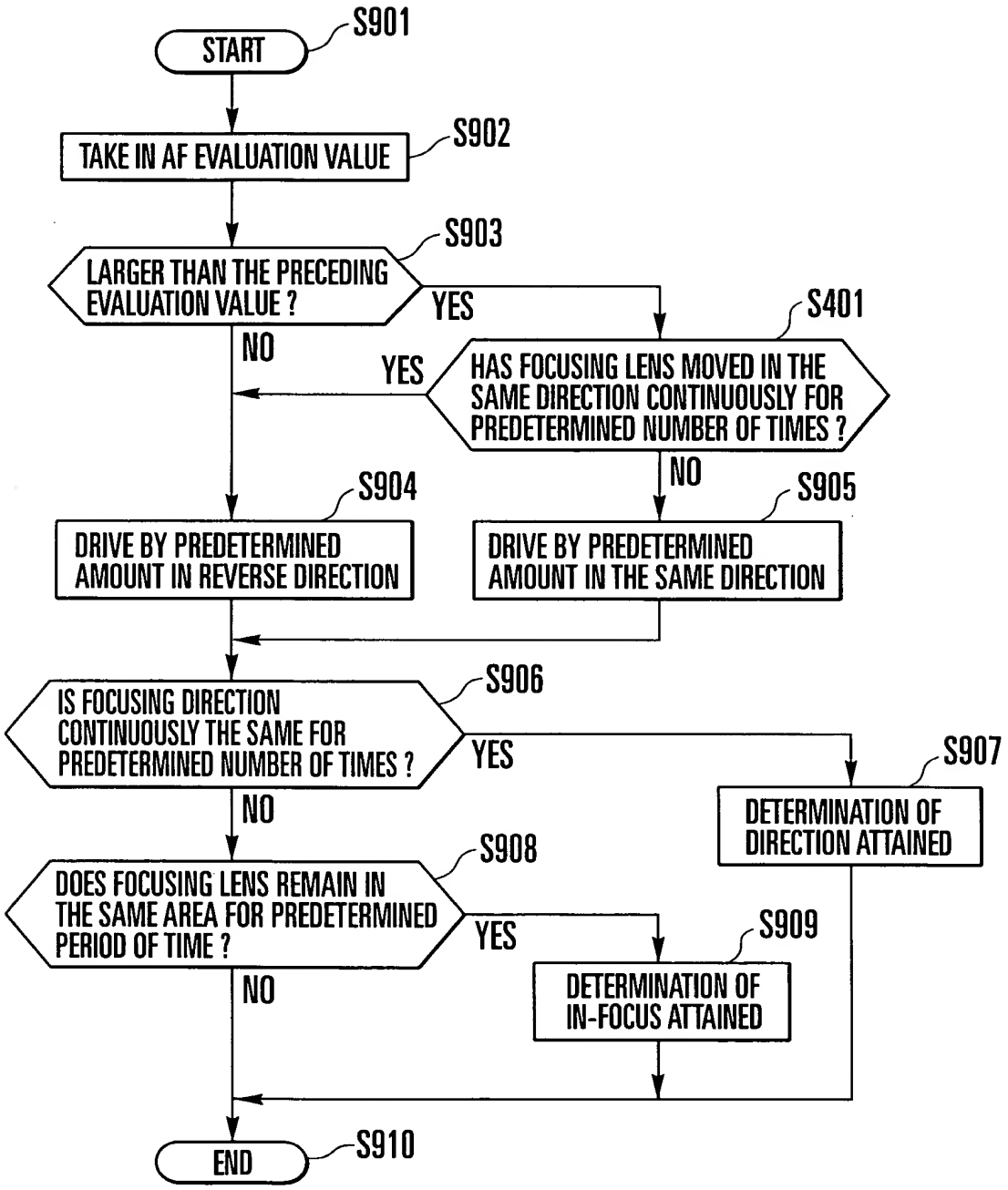
START
S901
TAKE IN AF EVALUATION VALUE
S902
LARGER THAN THE PRECEDING EVALUATION VALUE ?
S903
YES
NO
HAS FOCUSING LENS MOVED IN THE SAME DIRECTION CONTINUOUSLY FOR PREDETERMINED NUMBER OF TIMES ?
S401
YES
NO
DRIVE BY PREDETERMINED AMOUNT IN REVERSE DIRECTION
S904
DRIVE BY PREDETERMINED AMOUNT IN THE SAME DIRECTION
S905
IS FOCUSING DIRECTION CONTINUOUSLY THE SAME FOR PREDETERMINED NUMBER OF TIMES ?
S906
YES
NO
DETERMINATION OF DIRECTION ATTAINED
S907
DOES FOCUSING LENS REMAIN IN THE SAME AREA FOR PREDETERMINED PERIOD OF TIME ?
S908
YES
NO
DETERMINATION OF IN-FOCUS ATTAINED
S909
END
S910

FIG. 5

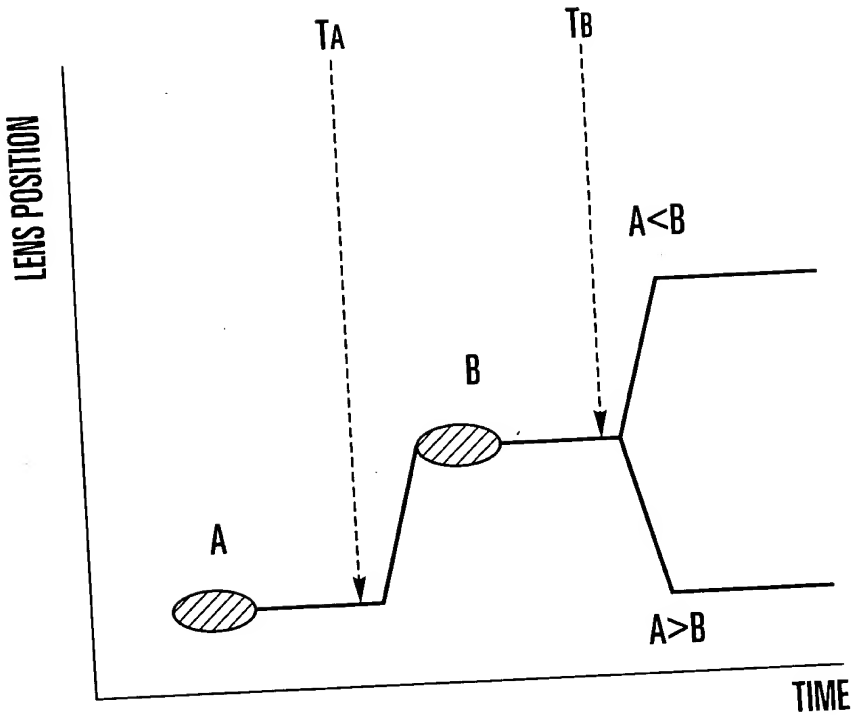

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FIG. 6

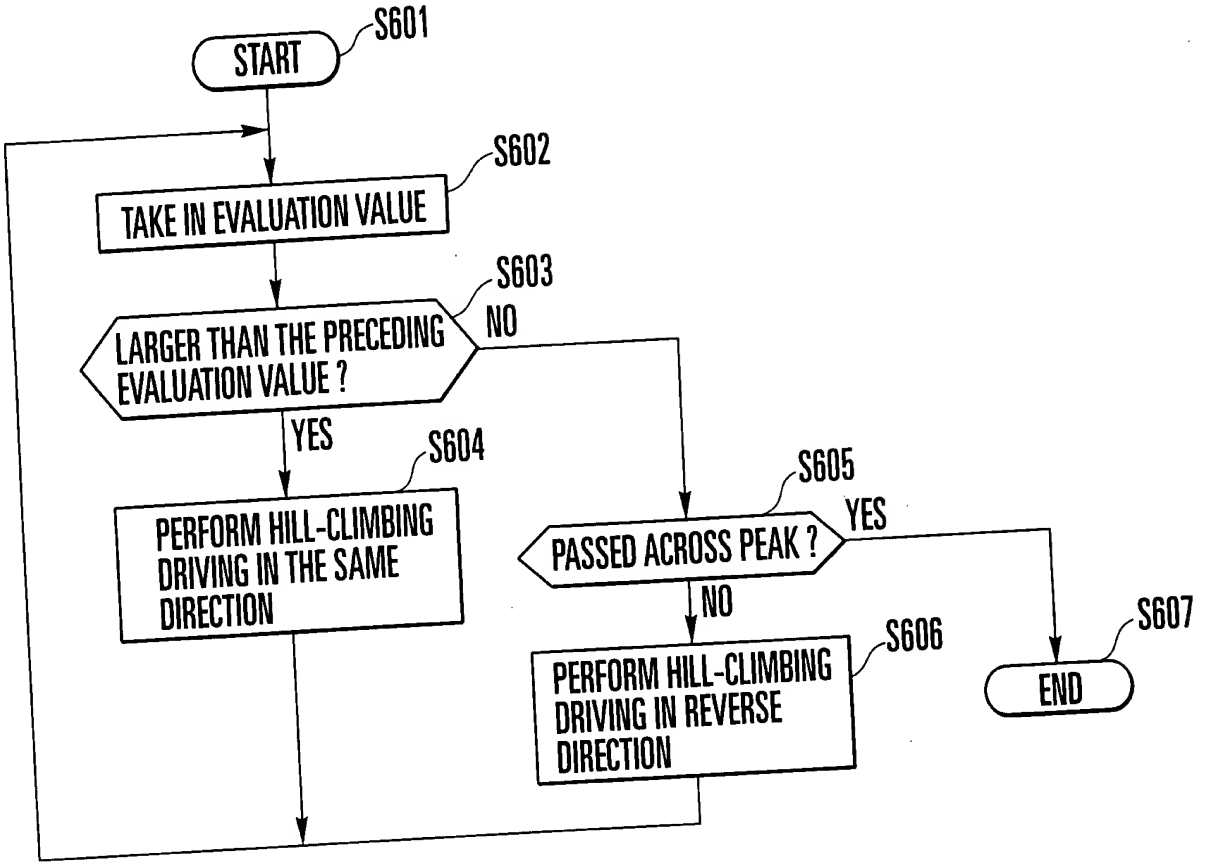


FIG. 7

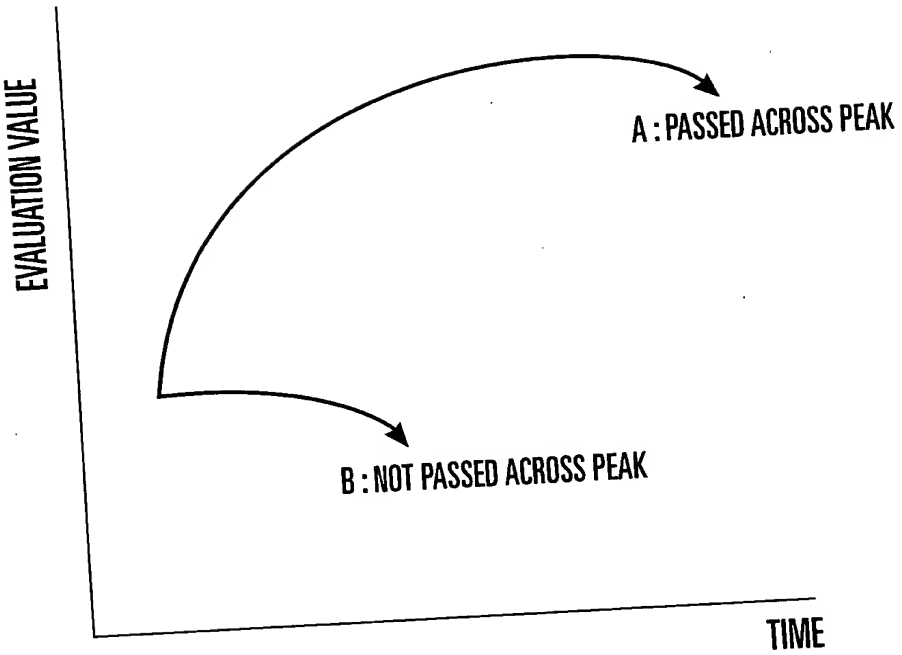

EVALUATION VALUE
A : PASSED ACROSS PEAK
B : NOT PASSED ACROSS PEAK
TIME

FIG.8(a)

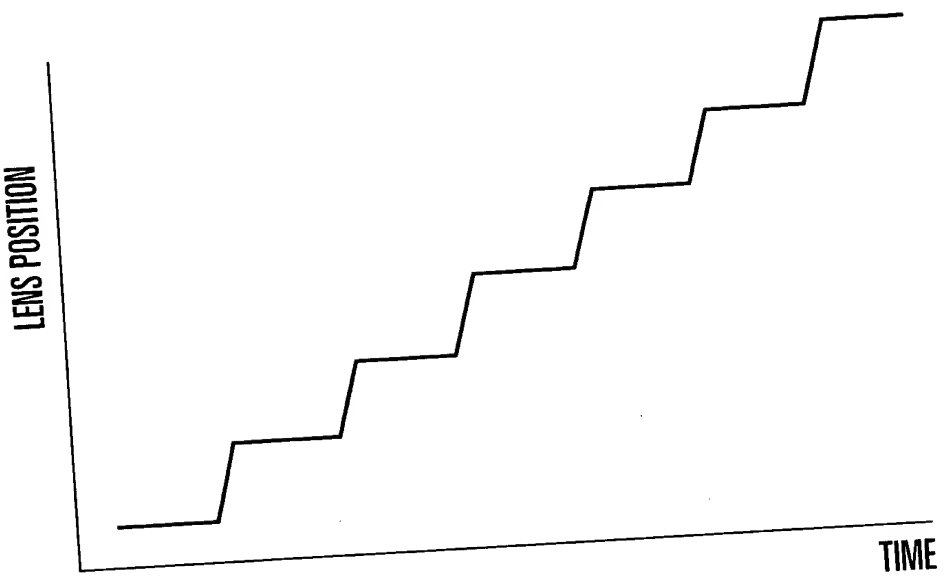


FIG.8(b)

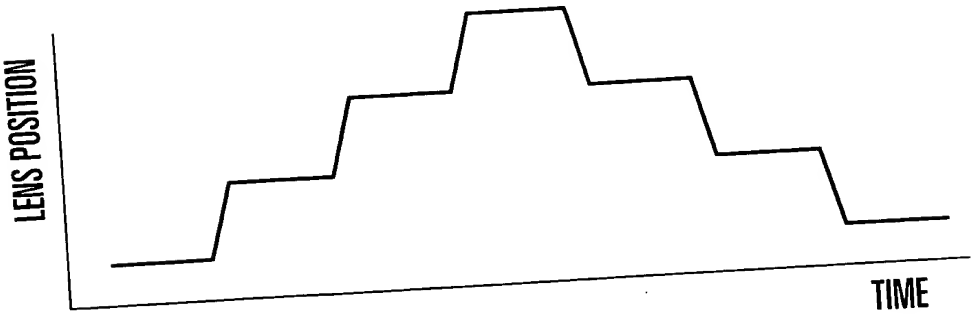
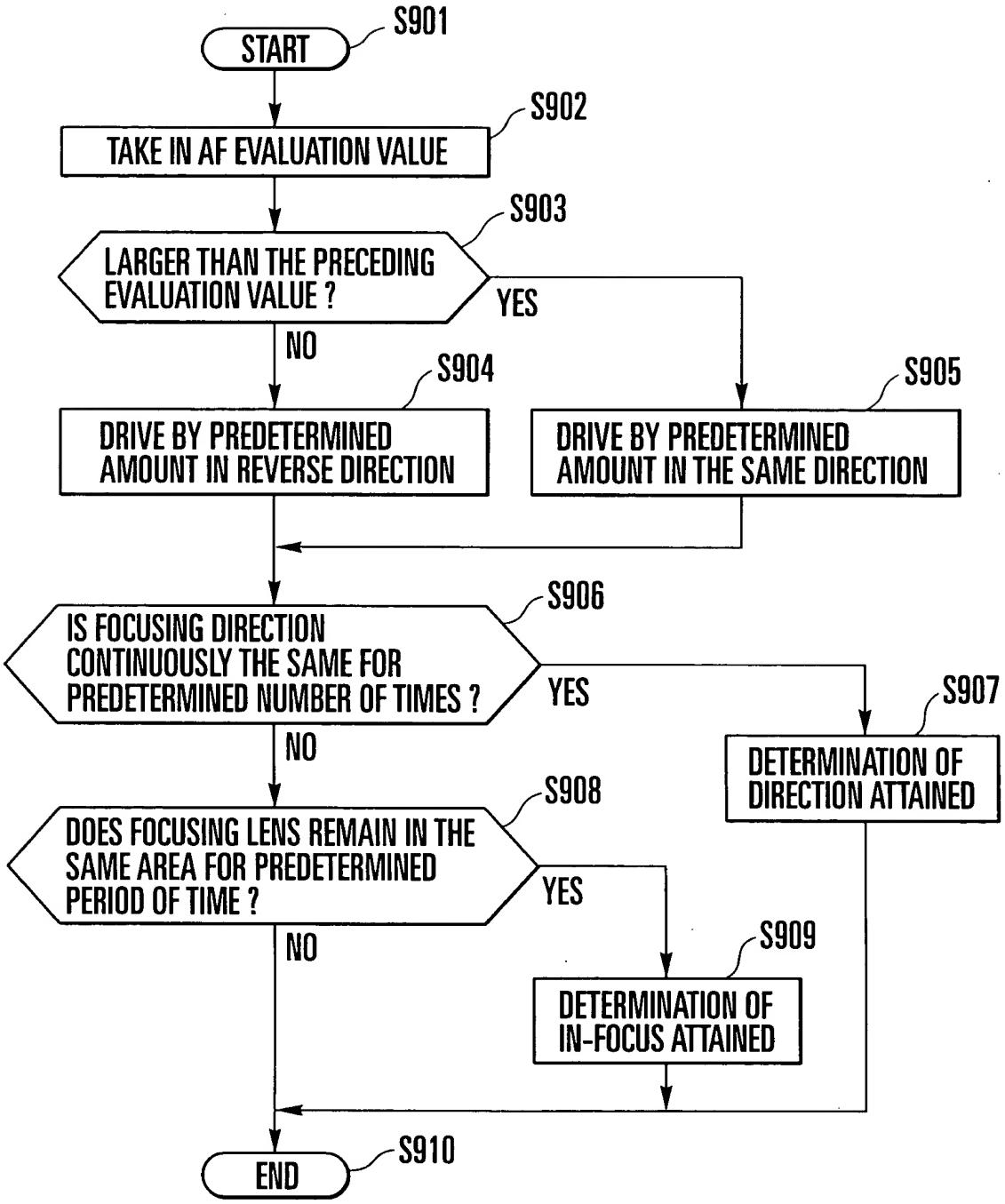


FIG. 9


START
S901
TAKE IN AF EVALUATION VALUE
S902
LARGER THAN THE PRECEDING EVALUATION VALUE ?
S903
YES
NO
DRIVE BY PREDETERMINED AMOUNT IN REVERSE DIRECTION
S904
DRIVE BY PREDETERMINED AMOUNT IN THE SAME DIRECTION
S905
IS FOCUSING DIRECTION CONTINUOUSLY THE SAME FOR PREDETERMINED NUMBER OF TIMES ?
S906
YES
NO
DETERMINATION OF DIRECTION ATTAINED
S907
DOES FOCUSING LENS REMAIN IN THE SAME AREA FOR PREDETERMINED PERIOD OF TIME ?
S908
YES
NO
DETERMINATION OF IN-FOCUS ATTAINED
S909
END
S910